

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 500

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union should enter into mediation to resolve the ongoing west coast port shutdown and that other options should be taken if these negotiations fail.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 7, 2002

Mr. GRAVES submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union should enter into mediation to resolve the ongoing west coast port shutdown and that other options should be taken if these negotiations fail.

Whereas the ongoing dispute between the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union has resulted in the shutdown of 29 west coast ports;

Whereas this dispute has sent harmful economic reverberations far beyond the shipping industry, the west coast, and even the United States border;

Whereas 7 percent of the Nation's gross domestic product travels through these ports and the flow of goods in and out of these ports is critical to the operation of businesses, farms, factories, retailers, and consumers all over the United States;

Whereas the stay of all west coast transport by sea has already prevented farmers from selling their crops, shut down manufacturing plants, idled truck drivers and trains, and precluded consumers from purchasing goods;

Whereas due to this interruption in the flow of commerce, thousands of Americans are laid off and living without a paycheck through no fault of their own;

Whereas the United States is already enduring an economic recession and high unemployment; and

Whereas if the shutdown of the west coast ports continues, it will present a serious threat to the Nation's safety and health: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2       *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3               (1) the Pacific Maritime Association and the  
4       International Longshore and Warehouse Union  
5       should enter into mediation while adopting 24-hour  
6       extensions of the expired collective bargaining agree-  
7       ment; and

8               (2) if a settlement is not reached, the President  
9       should direct the Attorney General to petition any  
10       district court of the United States having jurisdic-

- 1       tion of the parties to enjoin such strike or lock-out
- 2       or the continuing thereof.

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